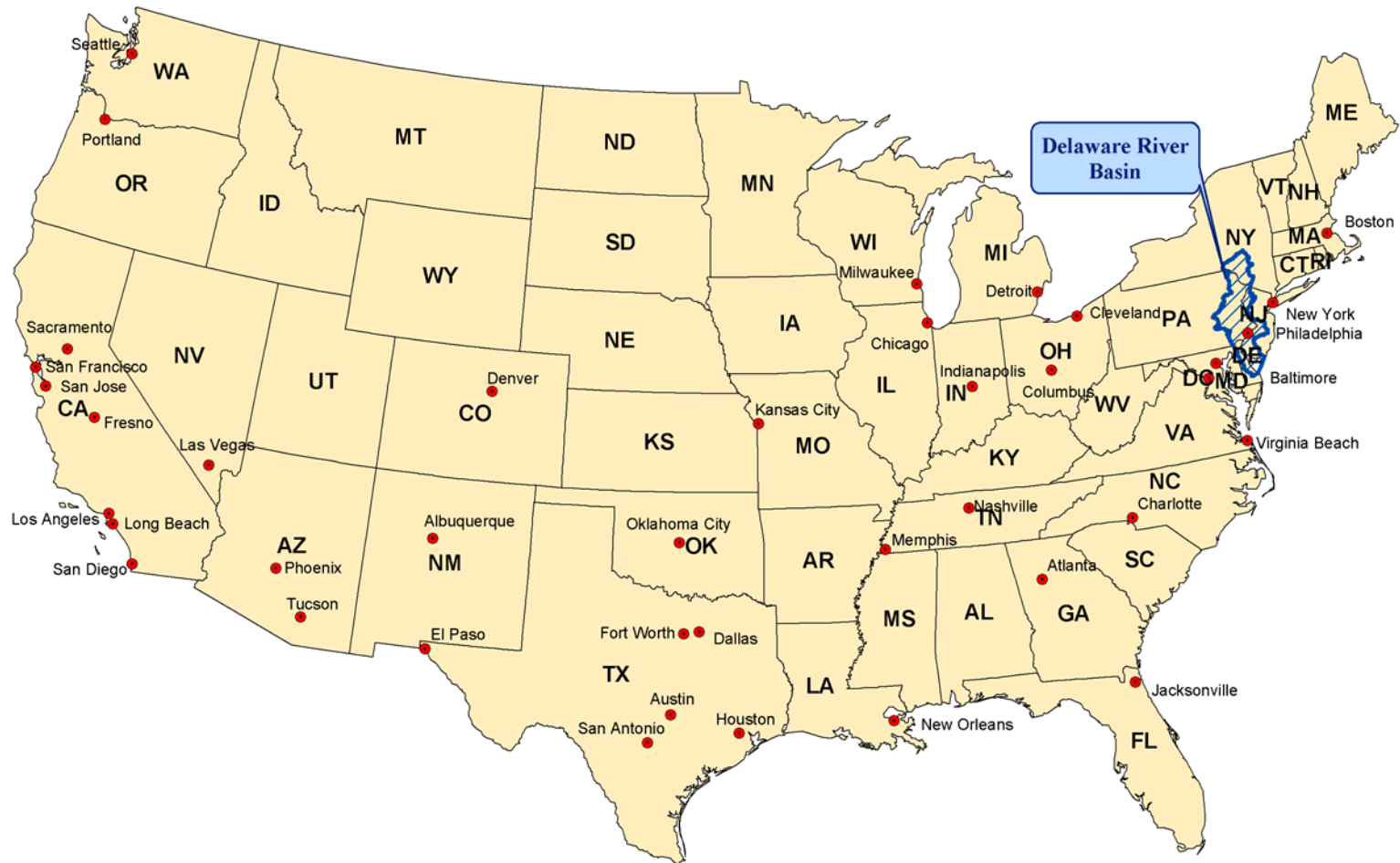


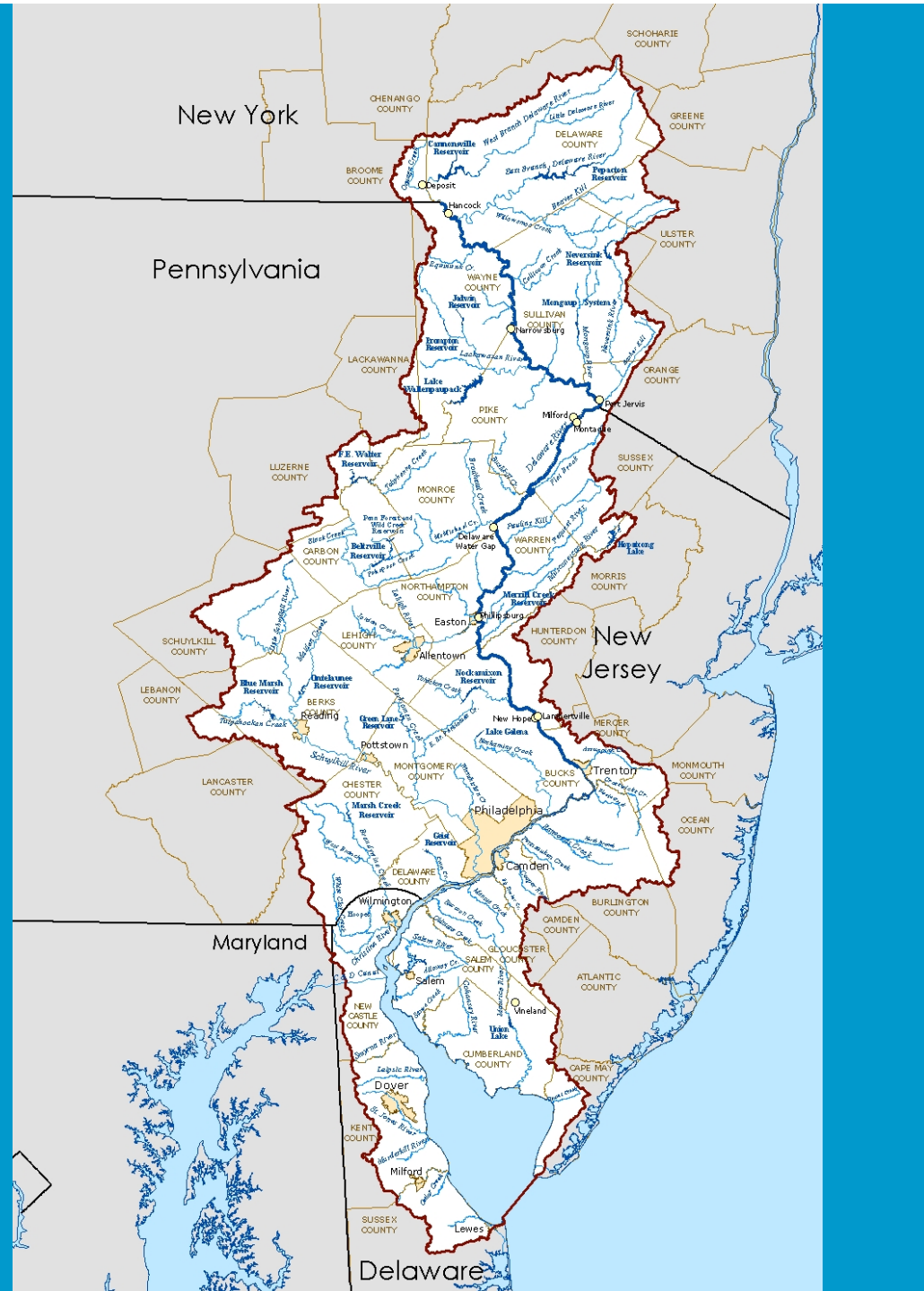
The Delaware: *A National Treasure*





Delaware River Watershed Facts

- ❑ About 5% of the nation's population relies on the waters of the basin
- ❑ Drains 13,539 sq. miles, or 0.4 of 1% of the total continental U.S. land area
- ❑ 216 tributary streams (HUC 11)
- ❑ 4 states, 42 counties, 838 municipalities
- ❑ 25 Congressional Districts
- ❑ 2 EPA regions



Delaware River

**Longest Undammed River
East of the Mississippi**

330 miles



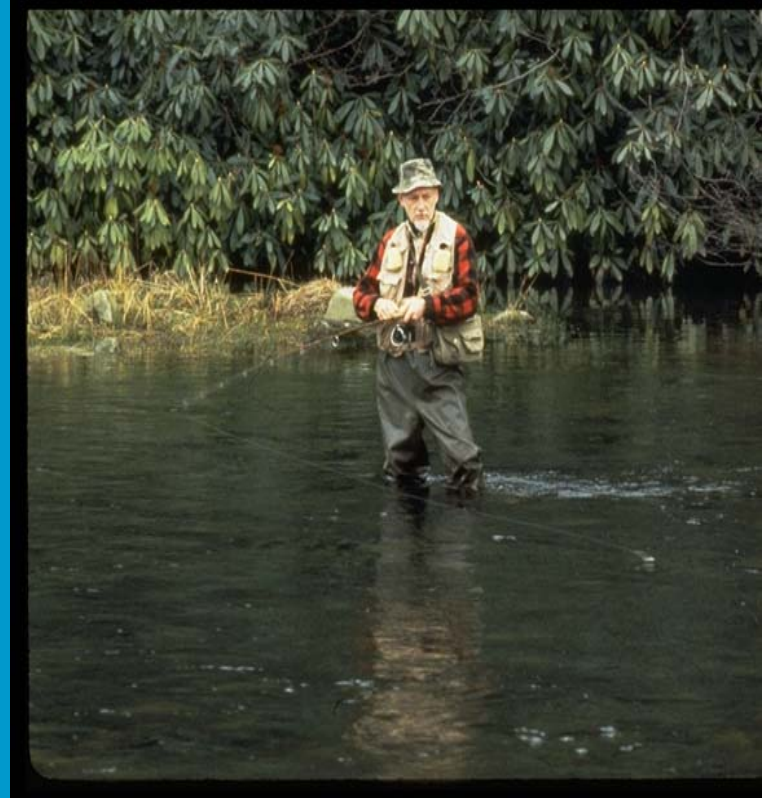


Three-quarters
of the non-tidal river
- about 150 miles -
has been included
in the
National
Wild and Scenic
Rivers System.



145 bald eagles were counted along the main stem of the upper Delaware River in New York in 2000, compared to only 77 in 1999.

Photo by Peter Nye, N.Y. State DEC





*Photo by Kim Weimer,
Buck County Courier Times*



Delaware River at Washington Crossing





Philadelphia and Camden Waterfronts

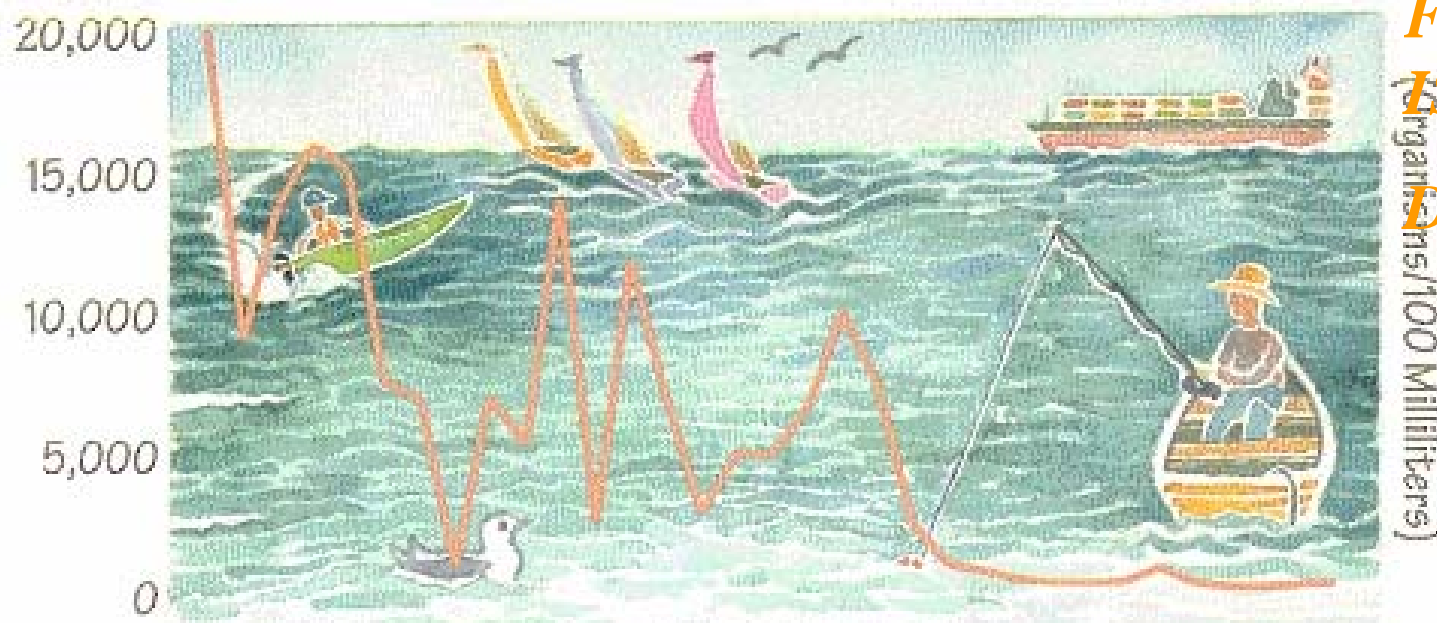


The Delaware River Port Complex (including docking facilities in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware) is the largest freshwater port in the world.

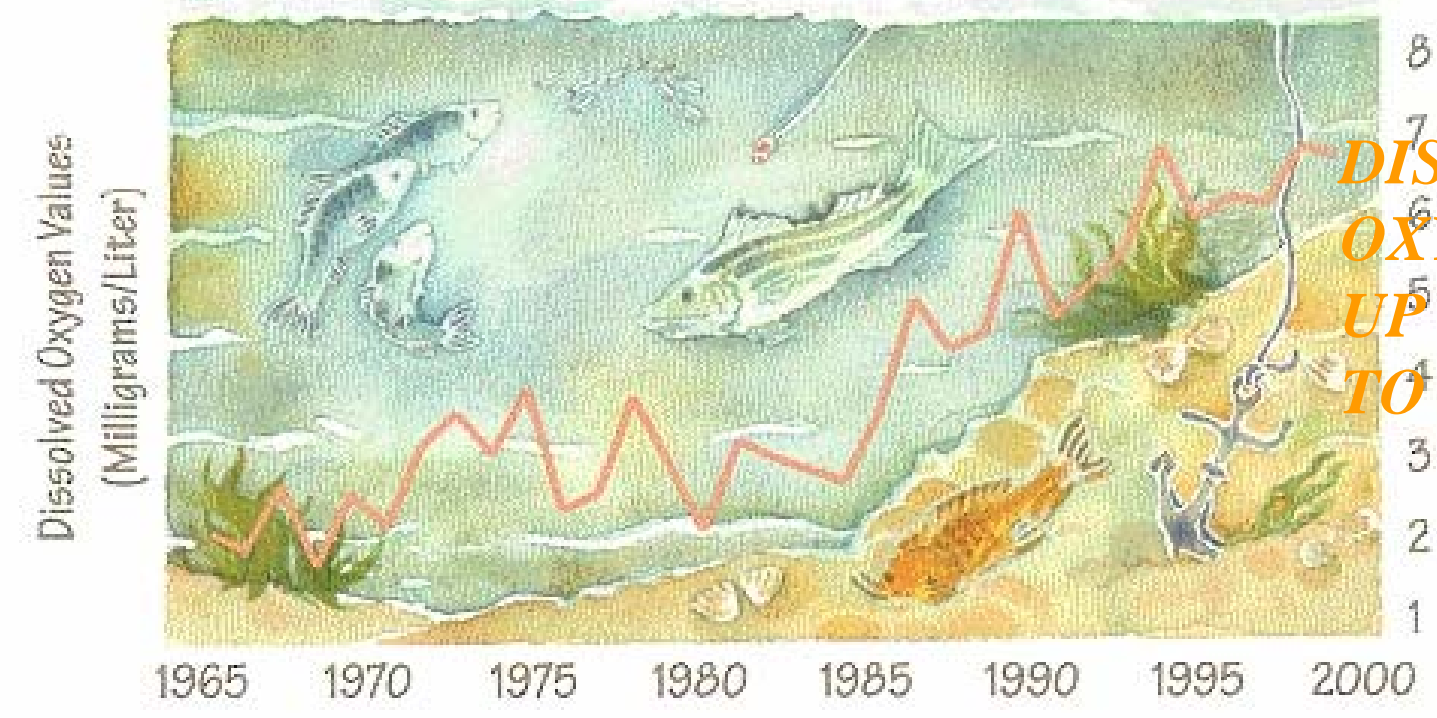


Delaware Bay at Lewes





FECAL IS WAY DOWN
Fecal Coliform Concentrations
(Organisms/100 Milliliters)



DISSOLVED OXYGEN UP FROM 2 TO 7
Dissolved Oxygen Values
(Milligrams/Liter)

1965 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000



The NYC Delaware system is one of three reservoir systems owned and operated by NYC.

It supplies about half of the total NYC demand.



Cannonsville Reservoir

Delaware River Basin Commission

- ❑ Founded in 1961
- ❑ Five Members:
 - Delaware
 - New Jersey
 - Pennsylvania
 - New York State
 - Federal Government



General Areas of Commission Authority

- Water Supply (Flow Management)
- Pollution Control
- Flood Protection
- Watershed Management (soil conservation, fish and wildlife habitats)
- Recreation
- Hydroelectric Power
- Withdrawals and Diversions



WHAT DOES DRBC DO?

- ✓ Manages Resources on a Watershed Basis
- ✓ Regulates Water Quality & Quantity
- ✓ Directs a Fair Distribution of Water
- ✓ Plan for Best Use of Water Resources
- ✓ Coordinates / Facilitates
- ✓ Educates about Water Resources



DRBC – Integrated Management

- Ability to consider all facets of water management in an integrated manner
 - Surface and groundwater
 - Water quantity and quality
 - Land-water and air-water relationships
- Utilize physical boundaries such as watersheds rather than political boundaries
- Ability to examine cumulative impacts within a watershed



WATER – The Key Issue of the 21st Century



NYC RESERVOIR STORAGE DECLINES TO RECORD LOWS



November 26, 2001
record low storage for Cannonsville,
3.245 bg or 3.39% of capacity.



Cannonsville Reservoir under normal conditions.

Cannonsville Reservoir is located on the West Branch of the Delaware River



Cannonsville Reservoir (6.5% of capacity).

The Delaware Estuary -- the tidal portion of the river including the Delaware Bay -- begins at Trenton and stretches approximately 130 miles.

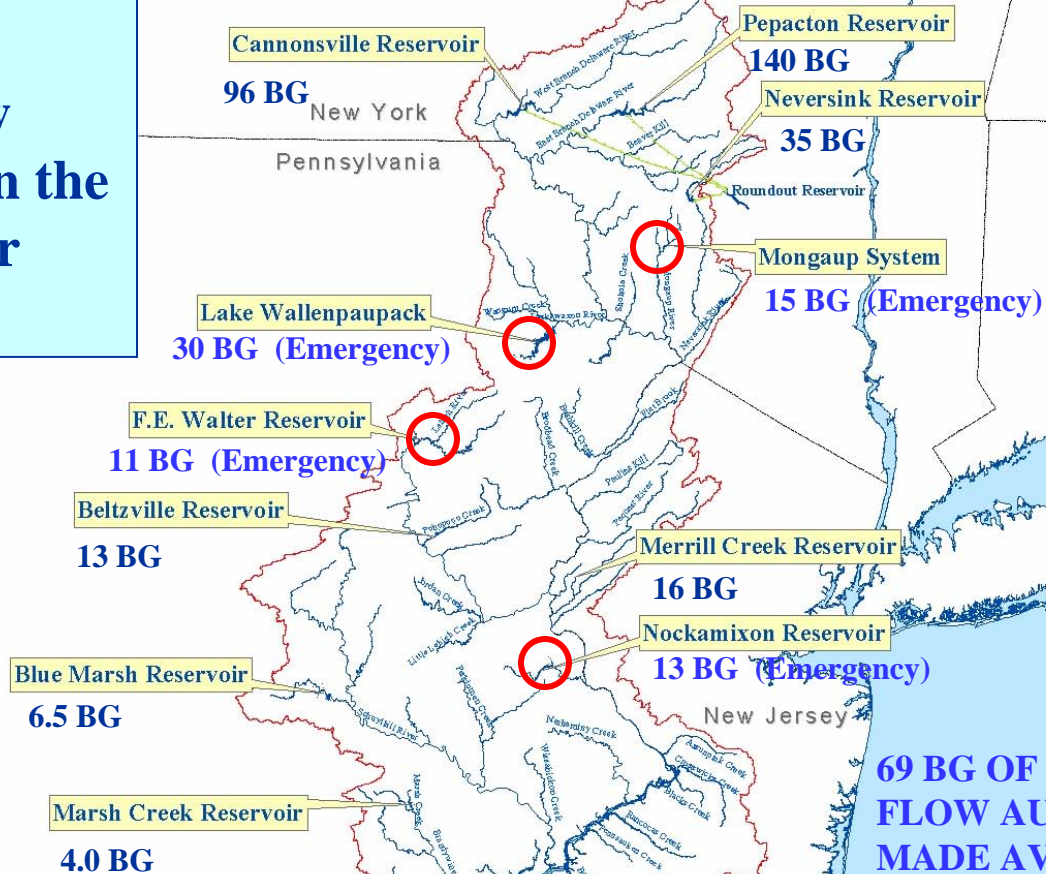


Basin-wide Operating Plan Controls:



- NYC diversions
- New Jersey diversions
- Montague flow target
- Trenton flow target
- Salt Line Location
- Conservation releases

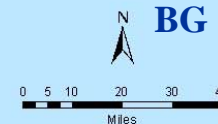
Reservoirs for Interstate Flow Management in the Delaware River Basin



**69 BG OF STORAGE FOR
FLOW AUGMENTATION
MADE AVAILABLE
THROUGH DRBC
EMERGENCY ACTIONS**

**Numbers indicate storage
capacities**

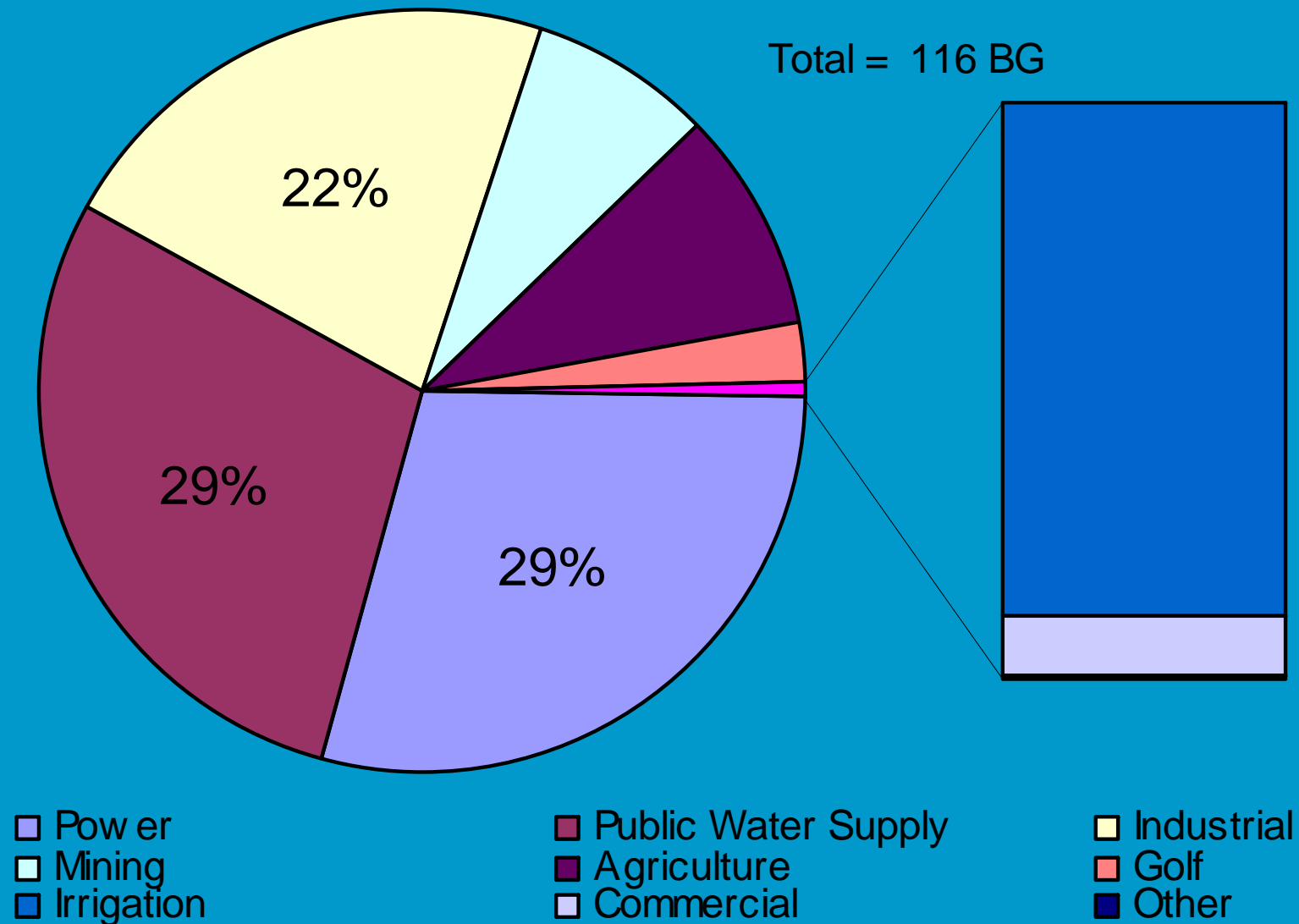
BG = billion gallons



DIRECTIONS

- What Questions Need to be Answered?
 - Do we have enough water in the Basin to support essential used during a drought of record in 2030?
 - How can we manage water in order to better support multiple uses?
 - Where are the Future Areas of Stress
 - Envir. Sensitive, Development Pressure, Low Yields
 - How do we integrate watershed management within the basin context?

Consumptive Water Use, by Sector, in the Delaware River Basin (1996)

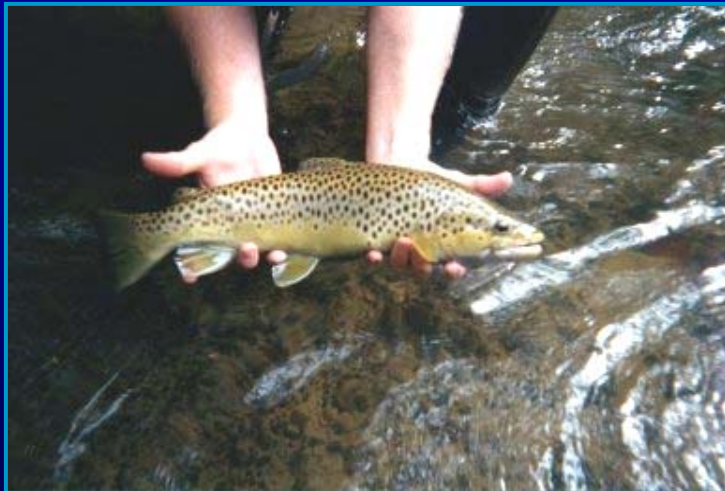




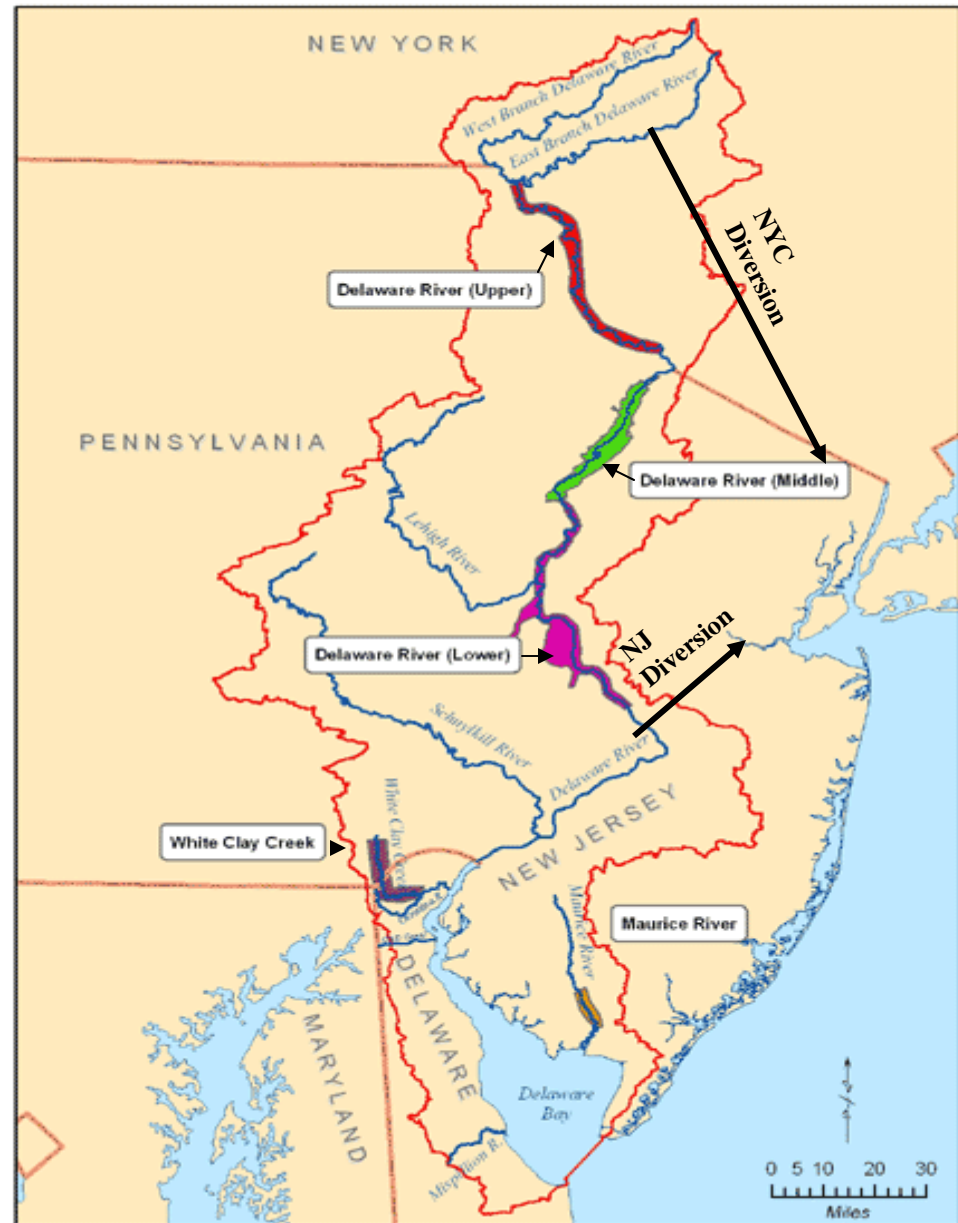
Regional Issues



Water Supply for Millions of People



World Class Trout Fishery Developed



**Scenic River Recreation and Economy
Inflow to Delaware River Estuary**

PLANNING NEEDS

- DRBC Compact - Comprehensive Plan
- Needed Direction Setting – Goals, Targets
- Needed Broader Involvement & Accountability
- Local Rule States
- Result: -
 - Water Resources Plan for the Delaware River Basin

PLANNING NEEDS

- Governors' Resolution – Sept. 1999
- Commission Approval
- Holistic, Knock Down Silos
- Stakeholder Input
 - Watershed Advisory Council

Watershed Advisory Council

- Provide broad-based input to Commission
- 36 members – government, industry, water suppliers, academia, agriculture, environmental/watershed groups
- Technical Advisory Committees
- 2 ½ year process

PUBLIC PROCESS

- “Flowing to the Future” 1999
- Sector Representation on WAC
- Focus Groups
- Public Meetings – Winter, 2004
- Trend Reports

A Unifying Vision

Establishes policy direction - 30 yrs

- Guiding Principles against which all decisions should be measured
- Specifies Results - 5 Key Result Areas
- Sets Goals & Objectives

What it's not:

- Prescriptive & Regulatory

What it is:

- Integrating & Collaborative

What it says...

Themes:

- Sustainability
- Integrated management
- Collaboration & partnerships
- Watershed focus

What it says...

Key Result Areas

1. Sustainable & Use Supply
2. Waterway Corridor Management
3. Linking Land & Water Management
4. Institutional Coordination & Cooperation
5. Education & Involvement for
Stewardship

HOPES & OUTCOMES

- Integrated Water Resources Plan - 2030
- Accountability of Partners
- Continued and Growing Interest in Basin
- ACTION!!

LESSONS LEARNED

- We have “Driver”, but no “Hammer” for Follow-through
- WAC –necessary, but caused question of authority
- Must Keep Water Resource Focus

How can the Plan help?

- Review alternative actions against the Guiding Principles
- Set local goals in accordance with local issues and those of the Basin
- Choose & support research opportunities that support Basin Plan objectives
- Relate requests for funding to a larger context and Plan
- Measure progress
- Improve collaboration & outcomes

How should the Plan be used ?

- As a guidepost for new research
- As a vision for the future
- As a guide for policy setting and decision making
- As a framework for relating plans and coordinating actions

FUTURE STEPS

- Roll Out - Governors and Federal Agencies
- Geographic Definition – Priority Areas
- Development of Action Plans (DRBC CP), MOUs/MOAs
- Agreement on Targets & Indicators
- Baseline Assessments
- State of the Basin Report – tracking progress

Basin Map

Large watersheds, or groups sharing common landscapes

Nested into Regions – related to mainstem characteristics

Relates watersheds to one another in the Basin system

The river that divides, also unites us.



Sub-basins of the Delaware River

UPPER REGION

- East-West Branch
- Neversink-Mongaup
- Lackawaxen

CENTRAL REGION

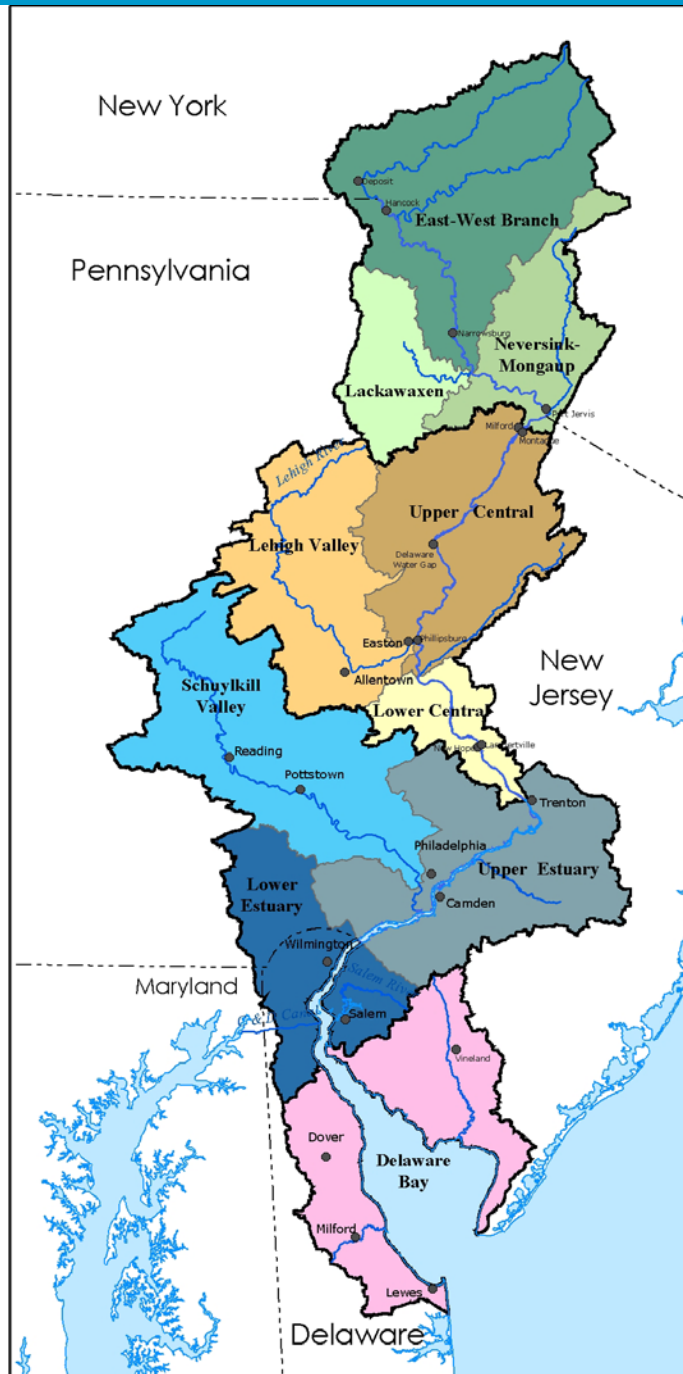
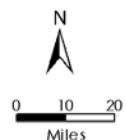
- Upper Central
- Lower Central
- Lehigh Valley

LOWER REGION

- Upper Estuary
- Lower Estuary
- Schuylkill Valley

BAY REGION

- Delaware Bay



A Large
Watershed
(Basin)
is only
as Good as
the Sum of
Its Subwatersheds
www.drbc.net

Plan Regionally....

Act Locally





“A river is more than an amenity, it is a treasure.”

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes

www.DRBC.net

